United Nations A/61/491–S/2006/794

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
3 October 2006

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-first session
Agenda items 11, 27, 44 and 90 (n)

Security Council
Sixty-first year

Prevention of armed conflict

Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Culture of peace

General and complete disarmament: confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context

Letter dated 29 September 2006 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as a representative of the country coordinator of GUAM (Georgia, Ukraine, Republic of Azerbaijan and Republic of Moldova), I have the honour to transmit herewith a statement of the Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the GUAM States of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development — GUAM (ODED-GUAM), adopted by the ODED-GUAM ministerial meeting held in New York on 25 September 2006 (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 11, 27, 44 and 90 (n), and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Viktor **Kryzhanivskyi**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the letter dated 29 September 2006 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Statement by the Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the member countries of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development — GUAM concerning the "referendum" in the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the member countries of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development — GUAM (Georgia, Ukraine, the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Moldova) have firmly rejected the so-called "referendum" held on 17 September 2006 in the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova and its results, which have no legal consequences from the standpoint of international law.

This "referendum" is illegal and its results cannot be recognized since they violate the internationally recognized sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova and the principles and purposes of the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in this sphere, and do not contribute to a settlement of the Transnistrian conflict.

The situation in which the "referendum" was held did not meet universally recognized democratic standards and cannot be regarded as the freely expressed will of the population of the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova.

In this regard, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the member countries of GUAM endorse the statements by the European Union, the Chairman-in-Office of OSCE, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe and a number of States rejecting the results of the "referendum".

The international community has once again confirmed that a settlement of the Transnistrian conflict is possible only through preservation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova and also respect for the rights and freedoms of the population on both banks of the Dniester river.

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the member countries of GUAM call upon the participants in the "5+2" negotiating process to return to the negotiating table as soon as possible and make all necessary efforts to find a final and just solution to the Transnistrian conflict in accordance with international standards and earlier agreements.